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Attorney Docket No.: 10508.204-US

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: De Maria et al

Confirmation No: TBA

Serial No.: To be assigned

Group Art Unit: TBA

Filed: April 3, 2006

Examiner: TBA

For: Protease Variants

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS) UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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Sir:

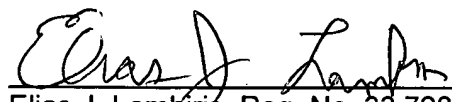
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants submit herewith references which may be material to the patentability of this application and with respect to which there may be a duty to disclose. While the references may be material under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that the references are prior art. The filing of this IDS shall not be construed as a representation that no other material references than those listed exist or that a search has been conducted.

The references are listed in Form PTO/SB/08A, which is in accordance with the requirements of M.P.E.P. 609. A copy of the references is enclosed. It is respectfully requested that these references be considered by the USPTO in its examination of the above-identified application and be made of record therein.

This IDS is being filed **within** three months of the filing date of a national application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application, or **before** the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, or **before** the mailing date of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination. Therefore, no fee is due.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 3, 2006


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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

(use as many sheets as necessary)

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	To be assigned
				Filing Date	April 3, 2006
				First Named Inventor	De Maria et al.
				Art Unit	TBA
				Examiner Name	TBA
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	10508.204-US

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner's Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
		Derwent Abstract: XP-002310338 Published 08-19-2004	x
		Derwent Abstract: XP-002308395 submitted (18-SEP-2002) to the EMBL/GenBankDDBJ databases.	X
		FAGAIN, CIARAN O., Enzyme and Microbial Technology, Vol. 33, pp. 137-149 (2003)	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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